

9. NEW DISTRIBUTION RECORD FOR *CALOTES NEMORICOLA* JERDON, 1853  
FROM THE KUDREMUKH HILLS, KARNATAKA, INDIA<sup>1</sup>

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Kudremukh National Park (KNP) is one of the less explored mountain ranges of central Western Ghats (Vasudevan *et al.* 2006). We conducted herpetological surveys for the Karnataka Forest Department from October 2005 to February 2006 in the KNP. On November 27, 2005, at 1600 hrs we came across a single specimen of *Calotes* sp. moving on the ground in an Areca nut plantation in the Pela village of the Belthangady range of KNP. This plantation is about 100 m from an evergreen forest at 400 m above msl. The specimen was fixed in 70% Ethanol and deposited in the Collections of the Bombay Natural History Society, Mumbai (BNHS Regn No. 1778).

The specimen was identified as *C. nemoricola* Jerdon (Smith 1935). The morphological and meristic data is given in Table 1. The coloration of this specimen was similar to Smith's description except for the presence of blue colour on the head and maroon colour on the nape. The sex of the specimen was not determined.

*C. nemoricola* is known from Munnar, Nelliampathy, Ponmudi hills and Wayanad in Kerala; Annamalai, Ashambhu, Mudumalai and Nilgiri hills in Tamil Nadu (Gunther 1864; Smith 1935; Whitaker and Das 1990; Tikader and Sharma 1992; Karthikeyan *et al.* 1993, Bhupathy and Kannan 1997; Thomas *et al.* 1997; Ishwar 2001; Ishwar *et al.* 2001). Thus, this new locality information extends the distribution of the species by c. 300 km north. It suggests that the species ranges widely throughout the central and southern Western Ghats.

Table 1: Measurements (in mm) of *C. nemoricola*

Character	Measurement (mm)
Snout to vent length	140.4
Tail length	324
Tail diameter at the base of the tail	11.9
Head length	38.3
Head width	22.7
Length of the IV toe from the junction of IV and V toe	29.9
Length of the longest nuchal scale	10.6
Diameter of the tympanum	3.9
Diameter of the eye	5.2
Supralabials (right/left)	11/11
Infralabials (right/left)	11/11
Around the body scale rows	38
Mid-dorsal crest scales	47
Right 4 <sup>th</sup> toe subdigital lamellae	23

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